

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARINE  
CORPORAL JOHN BISHOP

## HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2010*

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 8, 2010, Southern Indiana lost another of its brave sons. Marine Corporal John Bishop was killed in Helmand Province, Afghanistan after sustaining wounds from enemy small arms fire. He was 25 years old, and born in Batesville, IN.

Cpl. Bishop wanted to be a Marine from a very young age. After graduating from Southwestern Shelby High School in 2003, he immediately enlisted in the Corps. After joining he and his brother, Tyson, also a Marine, would often taunt each other as to who was the "tougher" Marine.

It was in the Marines that John met his wife, Cristle. The two were recently married and expecting their first child together, a daughter, next month. After his tour in Afghanistan—his third combat tour already having served twice in Iraq—Bishop planned to separate from the Marines, go to college to become a conservation officer, and start a life with his new wife and daughter, and his son K-Sean. Bishop's mother described her son as being ecstatic about starting a new chapter in his life. Sadly, that dream was cut short.

Cpl. John Bishop is the epitome of a true American hero. He and his family's sacrifice deserve our most sincere and heartfelt gratitude. Though I did not have the pleasure of meeting Cpl. Bishop, I mourn his death. His loved ones are in my prayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BEVERLY  
KEELERS

## HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2010*

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Beverly Keelers, an outstanding African American women's softball team, created during the 1920's by Mrs. Margaret Hicks Morris and her sister in Beverly, New Jersey.

The Beverly Keelers, also known as the "Killers," played softball up and down the East Coast. The Keelers took on all competition including opponents of the opposite sex. The Keelers were considered iconic during their time and in a tumultuous period in our nation's history, they reminded others of the diversity that made America the greatest nation on Earth. The Keelers captivated its local audience, even leading to a local businessman to incentivize the team for reaching benchmarks like strikeouts, homeruns and shutouts. In 1938, the Keelers earned the auspicious honor of a state championship by beating a team from Elizabeth, New Jersey.

While the team eventually disbanded, it reorganized in the 1950's as the Beverly Amazons and continued its success for many more years.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of this groundbreaking women's softball team whose love for the sport brought pleasure and inspiration to many.

RECOGNIZING EDWARDSVILLE, IL-  
LINOIS, AS ONE OF THE TEN  
BEST TOWNS FOR FAMILIES

## HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2010*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edwardsville, Illinois. The city was recently declared by Family Circle magazine as one of our nation's ten best towns for families.

Edwardsville was praised by Family Circle for meeting the magazine's criteria of having "affordable housing, good neighbors, green spaces, strong public school systems and giving spirits." It should also be noted that Edwardsville is the only city in Illinois that appeared on Family Circle's list.

Edwardsville has developed substantially since its humble beginnings in 1805 with just a single log cabin into a thriving community. Today, Edwardsville is home to 46 acres of wildlife preserve, numerous parks, and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. It is also the location for some of the areas largest construction companies including: Dean and Sons Construction, Phelps Construction and Thiems Construction.

I would like to join my colleagues in recognizing the city of Edwardsville as it is recognized for its many accomplishments. Edwardsville has proven to be an excellent educational, economic and family community that deserves any honor bestowed upon it.

HONORING DAVID HAROLD  
BLACKWELL, PH.D.

## HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2010*

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dr. David Harold Blackwell, world-famous statistician, the first African American inducted into the National Academy of Sciences, professor emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, and the university's first African American tenured faculty member. He was an elegant theoretician, an accomplished scholar and a devoted friend, husband, father, grandfather, uncle and colleague. Dr. Blackwell passed away on Thursday, July 8, 2010, in Berkeley, California, at the age of 91.

Born April 24, 1919, David Harold Blackwell was the oldest of Mr. and Mrs. Grover and Mabel Blackwell's four children. During his humble upbringing in Centralia, Illinois, David taught himself to read by studying the labels of supplies at his grandfather's store. In 1935, at the age of 16, he entered the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with plans to become an elementary school teacher. At a time

when there were no African American professors, David Blackwell graduated with a B.A. in mathematics and continued at the university, earning a master's degree in 1939, and a Ph.D. in mathematics in 1941, at the age of 22.

After being awarded a Rosenwald Fellowship for black scholars and winning a top fellowship to Princeton University's Institute for Advanced Study, Dr. Blackwell experienced the first of several career obstacles caused by racial prejudice. Undaunted by unequal treatment at Princeton and a blocked appointment at the University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Blackwell sent out applications to over a hundred black colleges. He eventually joined the faculty at Howard University in 1944, fast becoming the head of the mathematics department.

A lecture in Washington D.C. by Agriculture Department statistician Meyer A. Girschick not only influenced Dr. Blackwell's interest in statistics, but also initiated a close friendship and collaboration between the two colleagues. Their 1954 book, "The Theory of Games and Statistical Decisions," established them as leaders in the burgeoning field of game theory, a mathematical analysis of winning strategies that can be applied to economics, biology, engineering, military strategy, political science and international relations.

From 1948 to 1950, Dr. Blackwell used his expertise in game theory as a consultant to the U.S. military and RAND Corporation. His innovative take on established studies in multiple disciplines led to groundbreaking work in the mathematics of multistage decision-making, a textbook on Bayesian statistics, the independent invention of dynamic programming, and the development of the Rao-Blackwell Theorem.

In 1955, more than a decade after Dr. Blackwell withstood racial discrimination and the loss of an appointment, he accepted tenure as a UC Berkeley professor. He became Statistics Department Chairman, as well as assistant dean of the College of Letters and Science from 1964 to 1968. A self-described "teacher," Dr. Blackwell mentored 65 Ph.D. students, wrote two books, and published more than 80 papers during his long career. He held 12 honorary degrees, including from Harvard, Yale, Carnegie Mellon and Howard universities. Throughout his life, Dr. Blackwell's worldwide accolades and professional and philanthropic associations became too numerous to count.

Though Dr. Blackwell was preceded in death by his devoted wife of 62 years, Ann Madison Blackwell, and four of his eight children, his surviving family members, including 14 grandchildren, are proud to celebrate his remarkable life as they mourn his passing.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors Dr. David Harold Blackwell. Named one of the Four American Mathematicians Who Changed the World, we also recognize that he changed countless lives for the better. Our community is indebted to his life's contribution in myriad ways. He was a tremendous role model for the African American community and a compassionate, progressive advocate for peace and equality. We extend our deepest condolences to Dr. Blackwell's family and his extended group of loved ones. May his soul rest in peace.